

Matthew 4:1-11

Application Questions

1. Describe the three temptations of Christ and their appeal. How do these compare to how the serpent tempted Eve (Genesis 3:1-7)?
2. Jesus faced the temptations of Satan as the Son of Man, meaning that He used the same resources for resistance available to all mankind. What are they (vv. 1, 4, 7, 10)? How can you practically use these same resources (or weapons) to overcome temptation in your own life?
3. Read 1 Corinthians 10:12-13. What is the warning in v. 12? Why is this important? According to v. 13, what should we look for when we are tempted? How do we see this illustrated in the case of Joseph and Potiphar's wife (Genesis 39:7-15)?
4. What purposes do temptation and testing serve (Deuteronomy 8:2-3, James 1:12, 1 Peter 5:8-11, 1 Corinthians 11:19, Hebrews 4:15, Hebrews 5:8)? Which of these is most meaningful to you in your present trials?
5. If we are to overcome temptation, then we must first be aware of when and how we are being tempted and then know the Word of God (the sword of the Spirit) that speaks to that temptation. How are you presently being tempted? What Word of God can you use to effectively resist it? (Since this may be of a personal or private nature, feel free to keep your answer to yourself or to share it as God gives you faith. If you are dealing with temptation, consider reaching out to a mature Christian to find an appropriate verse to help you overcome.)